

1367.2 - State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Sep 2009

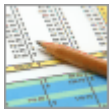
Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 12/11/2009

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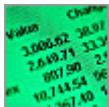
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Includes: Recorded crime offences



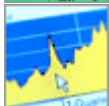
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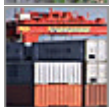
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FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

December 2009

March 2010

Release Date

19 February 2010

12 May 2010

NOTE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria provides a summary of statistical information for Victoria at the state and/or regional level. Included in each chapter is commentary on statistical highlights which provides analysis and graphs on selected indicators.

The statistics presented in this issue are the latest available as at 28 October 2009. Merchandise imports and exports data in the publication are presented on a common reference period. Imports data for September 2009 were available at this date, but they have not been included as exports data for that period were not yet available.

Please address feedback to:

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria is released on a quarterly basis with chapters updated when new data are available. Chapters and tables are only included when new data are available, so the number of chapters and tables may vary between issues.

A new chapter in this issue is Crime.

The table 'Condition of VicRoads Network, By Local Government Area - 2007-08' was expected to be published in this issue of the publication. The data are not yet available, and it is now expected that the table will be published in the December quarter 2009 release.

REVIEW OF DISSEMINATION STRATEGY

The Victorian Statistical Coordination Branch is reviewing the dissemination strategy for both **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria** and the newsletter Statistics Victoria (cat. no. 1100.2). Over the coming months, the review will consider the purpose, intended audience, content, scope, structure, format, delivery mediums, method of release, timing, production

processes and resources for the two publications. It will explore options and propose new solutions for the dissemination of state and regional statistics for Victoria that are more cost effective to produce, and more relevant to clients. The review will take advantage of the changed ABS web environment to address user requirements. During the review, **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria** will continue in a quarterly web-based e-magazine format.

The review is at the stage of user consultation. As part of the consultations, an e-survey is included as part of this release of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**. The ABS would appreciate the assistance of users in providing feedback on the publication. You are invited to complete the short survey by accessing the link on the left navigator pane by 27 November 2009. Key users are also being consulted separately to ensure they have an opportunity to provide feedback.

Comments and feedback on the publication are welcome at any time via the contact details listed above.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes in the form found in other ABS publications are not included in **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**. For detailed information on the statistics, users are directed to the Explanatory notes contained in related ABS publications.

Users are advised that small area estimates presented in this publication should be used with care.

Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Steve Gelsi on Melbourne (03) 9615 7590.

List of historical Feature Articles

For issues prior to September 2007, feature articles are only available as part of the original PDF publication and the links below will open the applicable PDF publication.

For issues since September 2007, feature articles are available in HTML format. Up until the March 2009 issue, the articles can also be accessed as part of the original PDF publication.

Issue	Title
Jun 2009	Surplus Bedrooms in Melbourne Homes
Mar 2009	Measuring Victoria's Population
Sep 2008	Victorian Household Preparedness for Emergencies
Jun 2008	Adult Literacy and Life Skills
Mar 2008	Workplace Growth in Victoria 2000-2007
Dec 2007	Child Care Usage in Victoria
Sep 2007	2006 Census: Regional Victoria in Profile
Jun 2007	Water — Sources and Usages
Jun 2007	Personal Safety Survey

Mar 2007	Workplace Growth 2003–2005
Dec 2006	Waste and Recycling
Sep 2006	Trends in Fertility
Jun 2006	Indigenous Vital Statistics
Mar 2006	Victorian Community Indicators
Dec 2005	Profile of Seniors in Victorians
Sep 2005	The Victorian Population 1836–2005
Jun 2005	Criminal Court Outcomes 2003–2004
Sep 2004	Summary of Findings from the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey
Jun 2004	Building Activity and Interest Rates
Mar 2004	Children aged 0-8 years in Victoria
Sep 2003	Estimating Workplace Growth from Workcover data
Jun 2003	Housing Trends in Melbourne 1999–2002
Sep 2002	Population Change in Victoria, 1991–2001
Jun 2002	2001 Census Geography Issues
Mar 2002	Part-time Employment in Victoria

About this Release

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about the whole of Victoria. Data is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

Most chapters contain a mix of tables, charts and commentary, to provide a basic analysis of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. Data is presented for varying geographic classifications, including, Victoria; Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria; down to Local Government Area for some series. The aim of the publication is to provide a picture of the situation of Victoria and enable comparison, both over time and between regions.

Core data, such as Estimated Resident Population, State Final Demand, Labour Force Statistics, Price Indexes, Building Approvals, Air Quality, and Water Storage Volumes is complemented by periodic annual data including the Condition of VicRoads Network, Recorded Crime Offences, Life Expectancy at Birth, Government Owned Housing Stock and others.

As the information is sourced from a wide variety of collections, care needs to be taken when analysing the data as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage may differ from table to table. Advice is provided in the publication on such matters.

Help us develop future editions

HELP DEVELOP FUTURE EDITIONS OF THIS PUBLICATION

We are currently reviewing this product and would like to hear what you think of it and the direction you would like to see it take in future. Please take a few minutes to give us your opinions by completing the short feedback form.

Your views will assist in determining how to improve the way we disseminate information about Victoria.

Feedback form

By clicking on this link, you will be directed to a secure website external to the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

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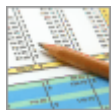
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STATE COMPARISON

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SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS

This chapter summarises the key Victorian statistical indicators and compares them with the same statistical indicators for other states and Australia.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 State comparison \(file size 41kB\)](#).

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ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

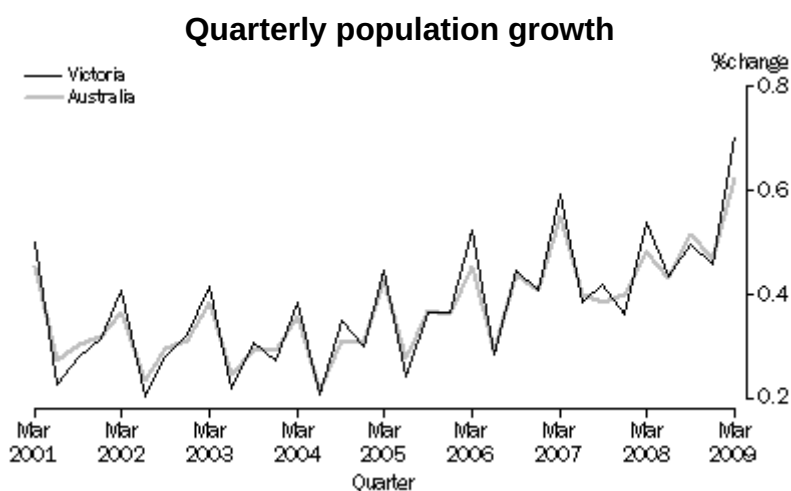
Victoria's Estimated Resident Population (ERP) at the end of any given period is the estimated population at the beginning of the period plus the sum of three components: natural increase, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

At the end of March quarter 2009, Victoria's ERP was 5,402,600 people, an increase of 37,800 (0.7%) since the end of December quarter 2008. Over the same period, Australia's ERP grew by 135,100 (0.6%). Victoria's ERP increased by 111,900 (2.1%) over the 12 months since the end of March quarter 2008.

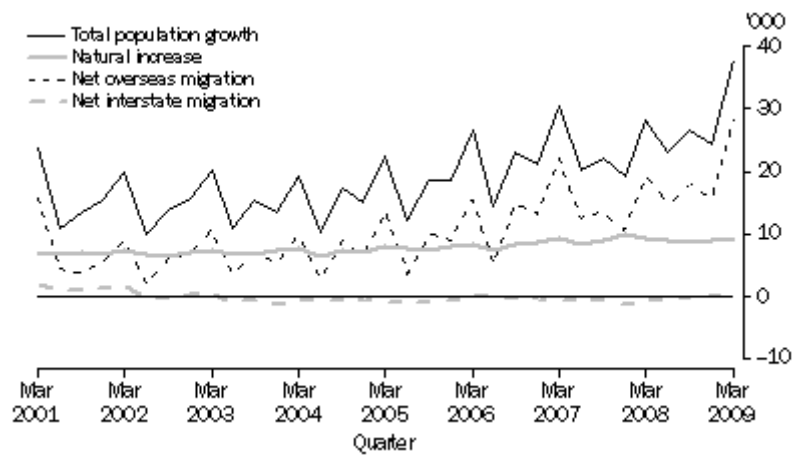
The largest component of Victoria's population growth in March quarter 2009 was net overseas migration (a gain of 28,400 people). Natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for a further increase of 8,700 people.

Net interstate migration has historically meant loss of population from Victoria to other states and territories. After eleven consecutive quarters of loss, net interstate migration made a positive contribution of 700 people to the state's population in March quarter 2009. Since March quarter 2002, the only other quarters with a population gain from this source have been December quarter 2002, March quarter 2003 and March quarter 2006.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2, Estimated Resident Population and components of population change, Victoria \(file size 23kB\)](#).



Components of population growth, Victoria



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CRIME

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RECORDED CRIME OFFENCES

The data in the chapter are sourced directly from Victoria Police. The counts provided below relate to recorded offences, not offenders. Therefore, multiple offences committed by the same perpetrator are counted as separate recorded offences. Also, offences are recorded against the Local Government Area (LGA) in which they were committed rather than the offender's place of usual residence. Recorded crime consists of those offences recorded on Victoria Police's Law Enforcement Assistance Program database during the reporting

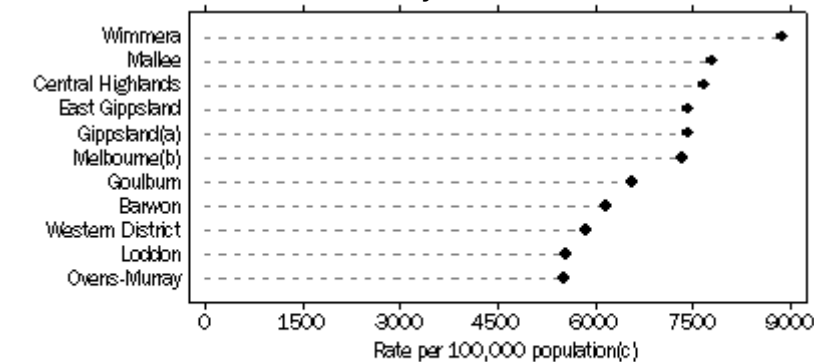
period, regardless of when the offence occurred or when it was reported to police. Figures must be used with caution as not all offences might be reported to the police.

Victoria recorded 380,249 crime offences during the 2008-09 financial year, an increase of 887 (0.2%) from the previous financial year. The majority (75.0%) of offences recorded in 2008-09 occurred against property.

Data were provided by Victoria Police as aggregates at LGA level. It was not possible to derive exact data for Melbourne and Gippsland Statistical Divisions (SDs) as Yarra Ranges LGA is split across these two SDs. In this chapter, Yarra Ranges LGA as a whole was included with the other LGAs in Melbourne SD to form a region referred to as Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA). Consequently, Gippsland SD as presented here excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B Statistical Local Area (SLA).

Recorded crime offence rates (per 100,000 population) were calculated using estimated resident population as at 30 June 2008 published in [Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08](#) (cat. no. 3218.0). Wimmera SD recorded the highest rate of 8,870 per 100,000 population. Mallee (7,791) and Central Highlands (7,672) SDs also recorded relatively high rates. The lowest rates were recorded in Ovens-Murray (5,525), Loddon (5,541) and Western District (5,855) SDs.

Recorded crime offences, By Statistical Division - 2008-09



(a) Excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.
(b) Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA).
(c) Estimated Resident Population at 30 June 2008.

The majority (75.0%) of offences in 2008-09 occurred in MMA. Within MMA, the highest rate of 36,297 offences per 100,000 population was recorded in Melbourne LGA. Yarra (15,980) and Maribyrnong (11,940) LGAs also recorded relatively high offence rates. Nillumbik (2,906), Manningham (3,180) and Yarra Ranges (3,915) LGAs recorded the lowest rates.

Outside MMA, the highest offence rates were recorded in North Grampians (12,896), Horsham (11,436) and Swan Hill (9,860) LGAs. Golden Plains (1,878), West Wimmera (2,262) and Towong (2,758) LGAs recorded the lowest offence rates.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Recorded crime offences, By Local Government Area - 2008-09](#) (file size 35kB).



WORK AND INCOME

This section contains the following subsection :

- Labour Force Survey sample size
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Labour Force Survey sample size

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LABOUR FORCE SURVEY SAMPLE SIZE

The reinstatement of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample commenced in September 2009 and will continue until December 2009. Private dwellings in larger urban centres and less remote areas and Indigenous community dwellings represent 87% of the reinstated sample nationally and will be progressively reinstated over the four months. The remaining 13%, dwellings in the more remote, less populated areas and for non-private dwellings, will be fully re-instated in October 2009.

The full sample reinstatement will decrease the standard errors on LFS estimates by approximately 15%, with gradual improvement from September 2009.

Detailed information about the sample reinstatement is available in [Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 \(Third Edition\)](#) (cat. no. 6269.0).

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Statistical significance of movements and other comparisons

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MOVEMENTS AND OTHER COMPARISONS

As the estimates are based on a sample survey, published estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability. This chapter includes commentary on movements in estimates between different time periods, as well as other comparisons between categories or geographic regions. Testing of statistical significance has not been undertaken, therefore some of the commentary may refer to movements or comparisons which are not statistically significant. Standard errors for estimates in the Labour Force Survey can be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in [Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube](#) (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

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Civilian labour force by Region

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CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE BY REGION

Between September 2008 and September 2009, the Victorian labour force increased by 51,600 people (1.8%). During this period, both the number of employed and unemployed people increased - by 15,300 (0.6%) and 36,300 (29.3%) respectively. The number of people employed full-time decreased by 7,900 (0.4%), while part-time employment increased by 23,100 (2.9%). The Victorian unemployment rate increased from 4.4% to 5.6% over the same period.

In the Melbourne Major Statistical Region (MSR), there was an increase in both employment (20,400) and unemployment (31,300), resulting in the labour force growing by 51,600 people (2.5%). However, in the Balance of Victoria MSR, an increase of 5,100 in unemployment was offset by a corresponding decrease in the number employed, so the size of the labour force remained unchanged. Over the year, the number of unemployed people in the Melbourne MSR increased by 36.2%, compared with a 13.6% increase in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

The labour force participation rate increased from 65.8% to 66.1% in the Melbourne MSR and decreased from 62.2% to 61.3% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

The proportion of employed people who worked full-time decreased from 71.5% to 70.5% in the Melbourne MSR and slightly increased from 67.0% to 67.1% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Within the Balance of Victoria MSR, only the Central Highlands-Wimmera Statistical Region (SR) recorded an increase in employment (14,600), with falls in employment recorded in the Loddon-Mallee SR (-7,400), the Goulburn-Ovens-Murray SR (-4,300), the Barwon-Western District SR (-4,200) and the All Gippsland SR (-3,800).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Civilian labour force, By Statistical Region](#) (file size 75kB).

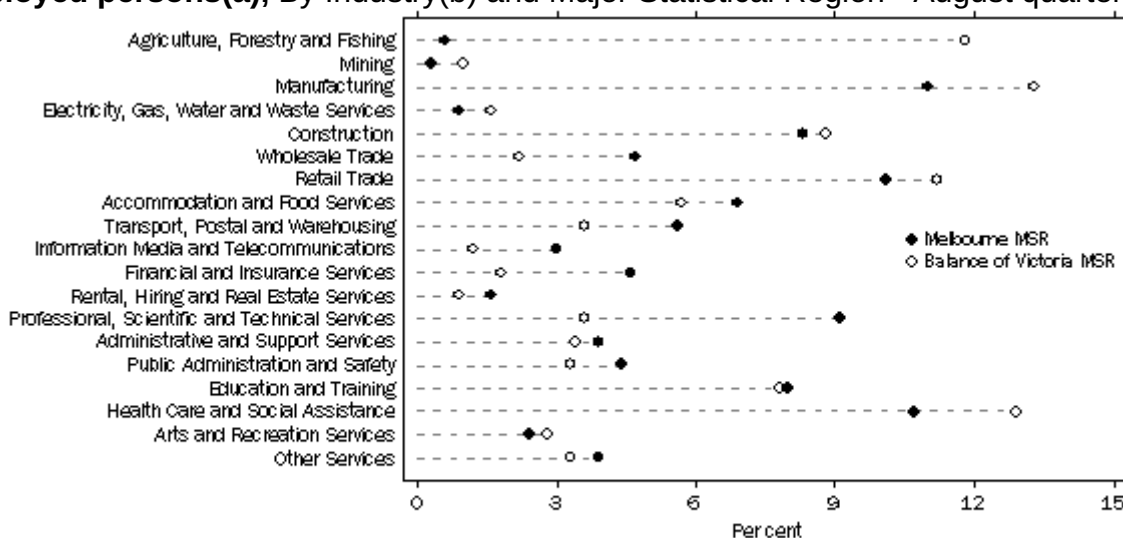
Employed persons by Industry

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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

In August quarter 2009, the largest proportion of people employed in the Melbourne MSR were in Manufacturing (11.0%), followed by Health Care and Social Assistance (10.7%) and Retail Trade (10.1%), while in the Balance of Victoria MSR the largest proportions of people were employed in Manufacturing (13.3%), Health Care and Social Assistance (12.9%), and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (11.8%).

Employed persons(a), By Industry(b) and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2009



(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.
(b) Data provided on ANZSIC06 basis.

In Victoria, Construction (88.1%) and Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services (82.2%) recorded the highest proportions of total males employed, while the highest proportions of total females employed were in Health Care and Social Assistance (79.9%) and Education and Training (66.6%) in August quarter 2009.

In terms of full-time employment, Construction accounted for the highest proportion of males employed in Victoria (93.8%), and Health Care and Social Assistance accounted for the highest proportion of full-time females employed (70.2%).

The largest proportion of male part-time workers were employed in Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services (69.4%). Health Care and Social Assistance employed the largest proportion of part-time females (92.0%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Employed persons, By Industry and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2009 \(file size 66kB\)](#).

Employed persons by Occupation

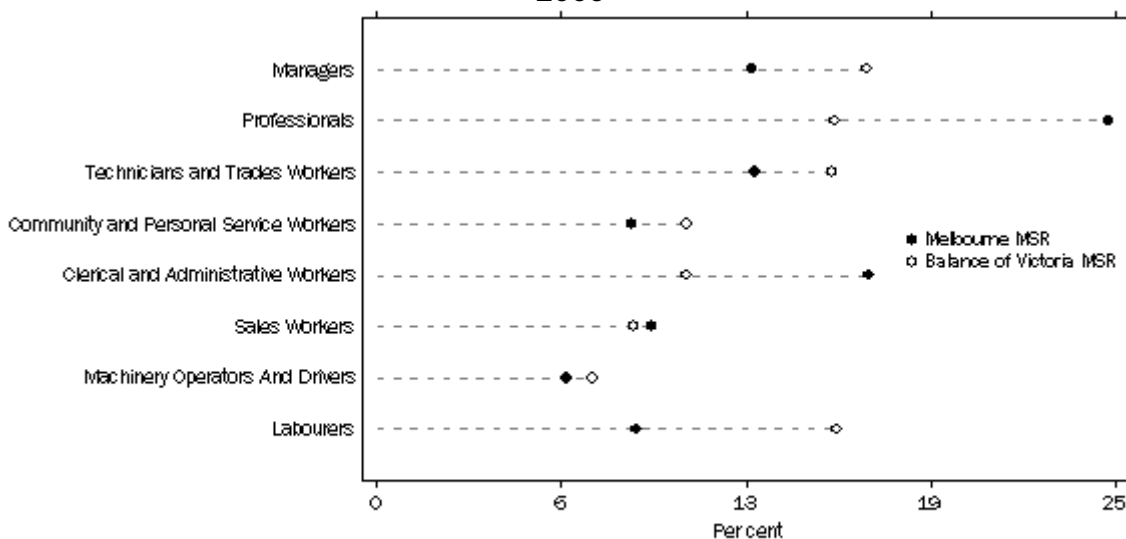
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION

In August quarter 2009, in the Melbourne MSR, almost a quarter of people were employed as Professionals (24.8%), with Clerical and Administrative Workers (16.7%) and Technicians and Trades Workers (12.8%) being the next largest groups. In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the highest proportion of people were employed as Managers (16.6%), followed by Labourers (15.6%), Professionals (15.5%) and Technicians and Trades Workers (15.4%).

Full-time workers in Victoria worked mainly as Professionals (25.1%), Managers (16.9%) and Technicians and Trades Workers (16.5%), while part-time workers were mainly Clerical and Administrative Workers (18.4%), Sales Workers (17.6%) and Professionals (16.8%).

Employed persons(a), By Occupation(b) and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2009



(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.
(b) Data provided on ANZSCO basis.

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PART-TIME WORKERS

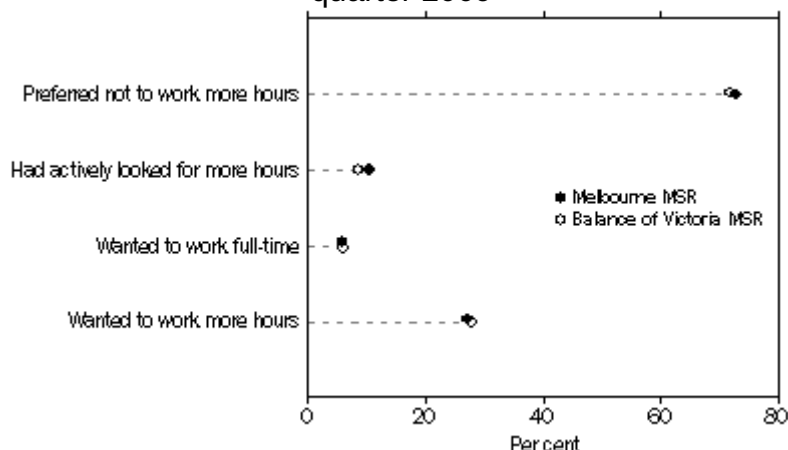
In August quarter 2009, there were 597,400 part-time workers in the Melbourne MSR. From August quarter 2008 to August quarter 2009, total part-time workers increased by 20,500 (3.6%) in the Melbourne MSR.

In August quarter 2009, females accounted for the majority of part-time workers (67.7%) in

the Melbourne MSR. The majority of part-time workers (72.9%) preferred not to work additional hours, and this was a more common preference amongst females (76.8%) than males (64.4%).

In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the total number of part-time workers in August quarter 2009 was 224,800, an increase of 6,700 (3.1%) since August quarter 2008. The majority of these part-time workers (71.9%) preferred not to work more hours.

Part-time workers, By Preference for more hours and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2009



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Part time workers, By Preference for more hours, Sex and Major Statistical Region \(file size 23kB\)](#).

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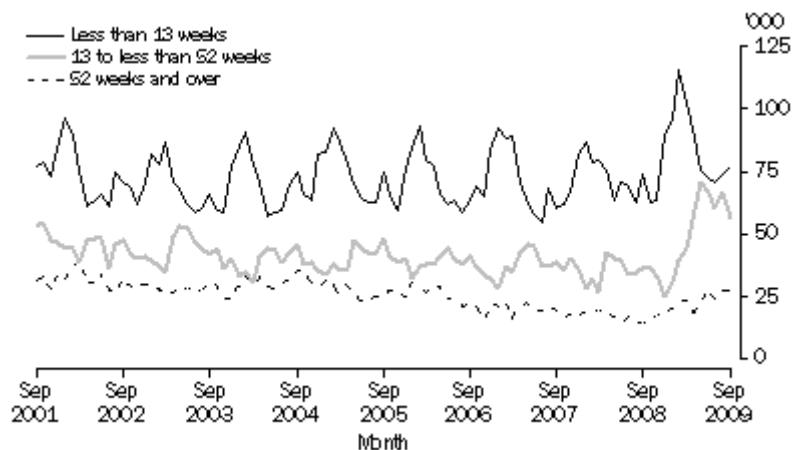
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Between September 2008 and September 2009, the number of people classified as short-term unemployed (less than 13 weeks) increased by 7.6% or 4,100 people in the Melbourne MSR and decreased by 4.6% or 900 people in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Over the same period, the number of people classified as medium-term unemployed (13 to less than 52 weeks) increased by 66.0% or 15,900 people in the Melbourne MSR and by 31.9% or 3,800 people in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

The number of people classified as long-term unemployed (52 weeks or more) increased by 134.5% or 11,300 people in the Melbourne MSR. For the Balance of Victoria MSR, the number of long-term unemployed increased by 37.9% or 2,200 people.

Unemployed persons, By Duration of unemployment - Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Unemployed persons, By Duration of unemployment, Sex and Major Statistical Region \(file size 56kB\)](#).

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SMALL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ESTIMATES

The Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) produce unemployment rate estimates at Statistical Local Area (SLA) level, using information derived from the ABS Labour Force Survey, supplemented by small area data from the ABS Census of Population and Housing and Centrelink.

The estimates are based on the same geographical structure as that used by the ABS for regional labour force estimates in the Labour Force Survey. From February 2009, estimates from the Labour Force Survey have been based on the 2006 edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). Previously, they were based on the 2001 edition of the ASGC.

Accordingly, the small areas (SLAs and aggregates thereof) for which unemployment rate estimates will be produced from March quarter 2009 will also be based on the 2006 edition of the ASGC. DEEWR is in the process of making the transition from the 2001 edition of the ASGC and, as a result, there has been a significant delay on the release of March quarter 2009 estimates. Therefore, the estimates of unemployment rate table included in this edition of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria** is the same as that included in the previous two editions with data up to December quarter 2008.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Estimates of unemployment rate, By Local Government Area: Smoothed series \(file size 35kB\)](#).

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Average weekly earnings

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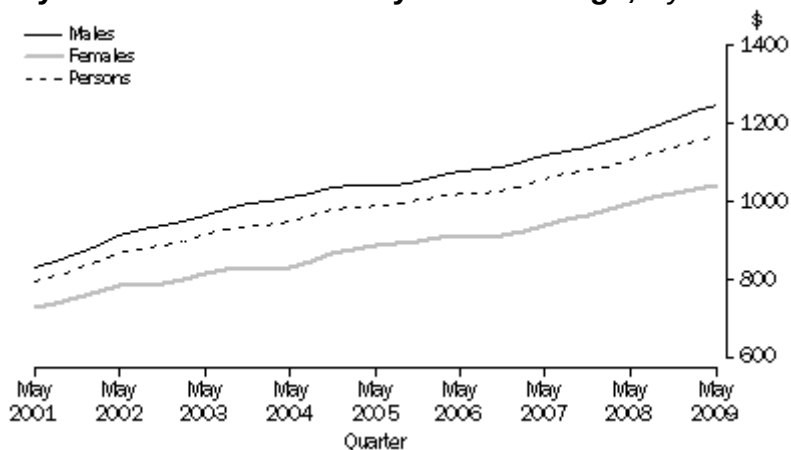
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The definition of earnings currently used in the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) survey is, broadly, current and regular payments in cash to employees for work done. Thus, earnings series from the AWE survey have historically excluded amounts salary sacrificed, as these have been considered conceptually as payments in kind. However, under the revised conceptual framework for measures of employee remuneration, as presented in [Information Paper: Changes to ABS Measures of Employee Remuneration](#) (cat. no. 6313.0), amounts salary sacrificed are now considered conceptually to be wages and salaries in cash.

In May quarter 2009, the trend estimate of average weekly full-time adult ordinary time earnings in Victoria was \$1,167.37, an increase of 5.5% from May quarter 2008. Over the same period, trend full-time adult ordinary time earnings increased by 6.7% for males and by 4.4% for females.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Average weekly earnings of employees, By Sex - Victoria: All series \(file size 24kB\)](#).

Average weekly full-time adult ordinary time earnings, By Sex - Victoria: Trend

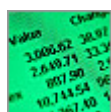


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STATE FINAL DEMAND

State final demand is the estimate obtained by summing government final consumption expenditure, household final consumption expenditure, private gross fixed capital formation and the gross fixed capital formation of public corporations and general government.

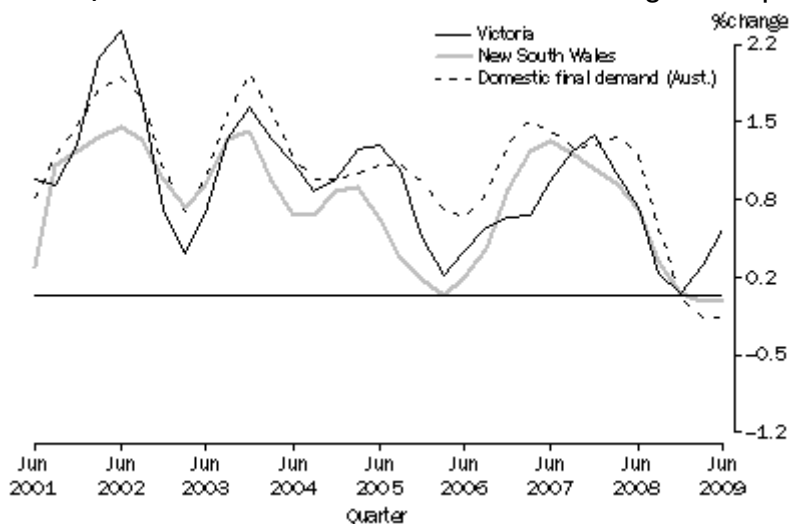
In June quarter 2009, the trend estimate for Victorian final demand, in volume terms, was \$67,115 million, an increase of 0.6% from March quarter 2009. This was above the trend growth for New South Wales (0.0%) and Australian domestic final demand (-0.2%) over the same period.

Household final consumption expenditure is the largest component of state final demand, and accounted for 57.3% of the trend volume estimate of state final demand in June quarter 2009. The trend volume estimate of household final consumption expenditure increased by 0.6% from March quarter 2009. The other main contributors to trend state final demand in June quarter 2009 were private gross fixed capital formation (23.4%) and government final consumption expenditure (16.5%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 State final demand, Victoria, Chain volume measures: Seasonally adjusted and trend \(file size 28kB\)](#).

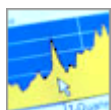
View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 State final demand, Victoria: Original \(file size 23kB\)](#).

State final demand, Chain volume measure: Trend - Change from previous quarter



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Consumer Price Index

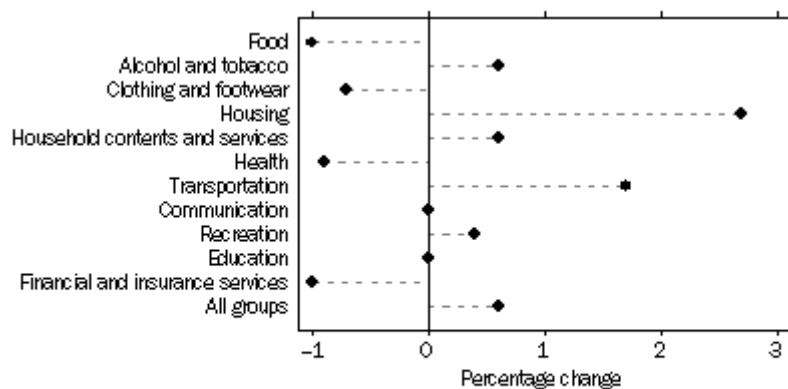
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Between June quarter 2009 and September quarter 2009, the All groups CPI for Melbourne increased by 0.6%. The groups which recorded the largest increases were: Housing (2.7%), Transportation (1.7%), Household contents and services, and Alcohol and tobacco (both 0.6%). The groups which recorded decreases were: Food, and Financial and insurance services (both -1.0%), Health (-0.9%) and Clothing and footwear (-0.7%).

Between September quarter 2008 and September quarter 2009, the All groups CPI for Melbourne rose by 0.6%. The CPI All groups weighted average for the eight capital cities rose by 1.3% over the same period. The biggest annual increases for Melbourne were recorded in Housing (5.3%), Education (5.2%), Alcohol and tobacco (3.8%) and Health (3.7%). The groups which recorded a decrease for the year were Financial and insurance services (-9.6%) and Transportation (-5.7%).

Change in Consumer Price Index, By Group - Melbourne - June quarter 2009 to September quarter 2009



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Consumer Price Index, By Group, Melbourne and weighted average of eight capital cities \(file size 24kB\)](#).

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House price indexes

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HOUSE PRICE INDEXES

The price index for established houses covers transactions in detached residential dwellings on their own block of land regardless of age (i.e. includes new houses sold as a house/land package as well as second-hand houses). Price changes therefore relate to changes in the total price of dwelling and land.

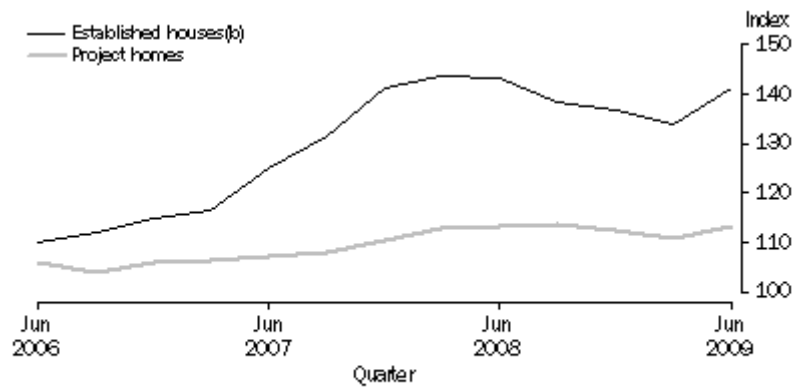
Project homes are dwellings available for construction on an existing block of land. Price changes relate only to the cost of constructing the dwelling (excluding land).

During 2007 and 2008, the ABS undertook a review of the house price index. As a result, the housing stock weights were updated using quantity data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing and the method of stratification used to compile the index was refined. For further details, please refer to the Appendix in the December 2008 issue of [House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities](#) (cat. no. 6416.0).

In June quarter 2009, the price of project homes in Melbourne increased by 2.2% from the previous quarter. Based on preliminary estimates, the price of established houses also increased by 5.2% over the same period. Preliminary estimates of the weighted average of the eight capital cities showed an increase of 4.2% in established house prices and an increase of 1.5% in project home prices in June quarter 2009.

From June quarter 2008 to June quarter 2009, established house prices in Melbourne decreased by 1.5% and project home prices increased by 0.2%.

House price indexes(a), Melbourne



(a) Base of each index: four quarter average 2003-04 = 100.0.

(b) Estimates for the two most recent quarters of the established house price index are preliminary.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 House price indexes, Melbourne and weighted average of eight capital cities \(file size 26kB\)](#).

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CONSTRUCTION

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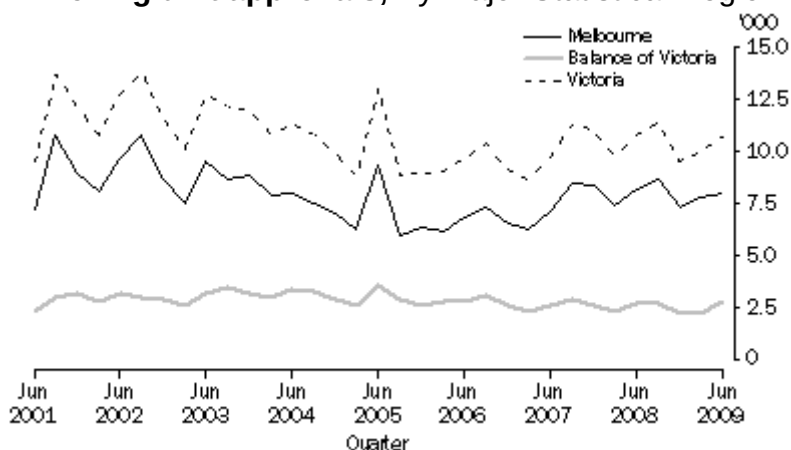
BUILDING APPROVALS

In June quarter 2009, there were 10,781 new dwelling units approved in Victoria, of which 74.3% were in the Melbourne MSR. There were 762 (7.6%) more dwelling unit approvals in Victoria than in the previous quarter, and 34 (-0.3%) less than in June quarter 2008. The

number of dwelling units approved in the Melbourne MSR increased by 2.4% compared with the previous quarter and decreased by 1.6% compared with June quarter 2008. In the Balance of Victoria MSR there was an increase of 26.0% over the previous quarter and an increase of 3.5% over June quarter 2008.

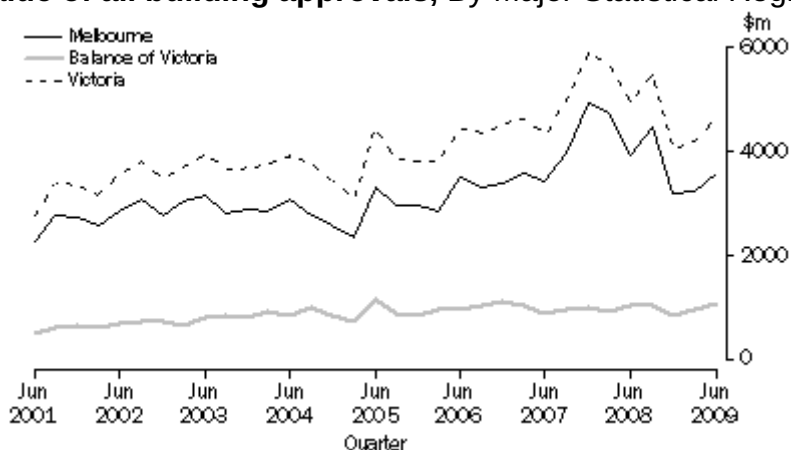
One third (32.1%) of the dwelling unit approvals in the Melbourne MSR in June quarter 2009 were in three LGAs - Wyndham (1,058), Whittlesea (863) and Casey (648). In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the LGAs with the highest number of dwelling units approved were Greater Geelong (378), Ballarat (238) and Greater Bendigo (219).

Dwelling unit approvals, By Major Statistical Region



At current prices, the total value of building approvals in Victoria in June quarter 2009 was \$4,657.3 million, an increase of \$461.3 million (11.0%) over March quarter 2009, but a fall of \$282.1 million (-5.7%) compared with June quarter 2008.

Value of all building approvals, By Major Statistical Region



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Building approvals, By Local Government Area \(file size 41kB\)](#).

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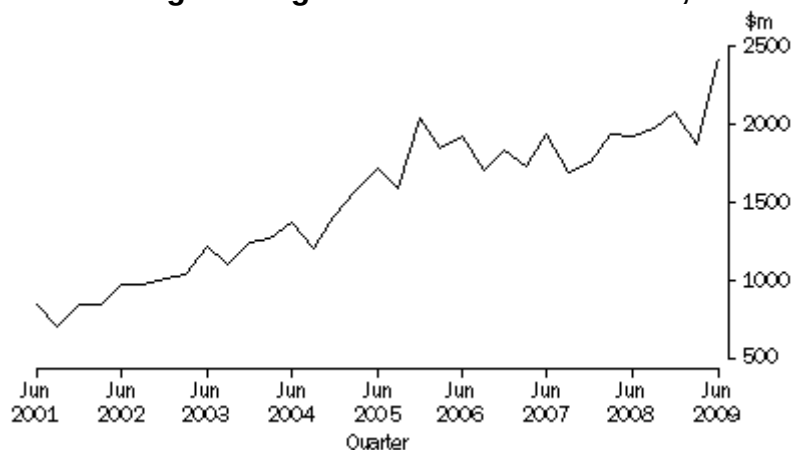
Engineering construction activity

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

For Victoria, the total value (at current prices) of engineering construction activity (work) done during June quarter 2009 was \$2,425.4 million, an increase of 29.4% from March quarter 2009 and 26.1% over June quarter 2008. More than one fifth (20.8%) of the value of work done was for Roads, highways and subdivisions, while 17.5% was for Telecommunications and 16.3% was for Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines.

Value of engineering construction work done, Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Engineering construction activity, By Type - Victoria: Original \(file size 41kB\)](#).

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TOURISM

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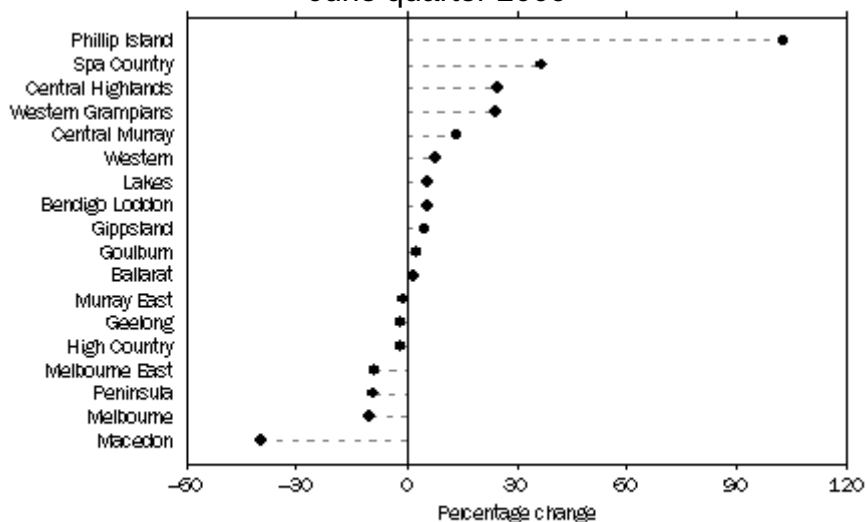
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

In June quarter 2009, total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments in Victoria with 15 or more rooms were \$318.5 million, a decrease of 6.7% from June quarter 2008. The Melbourne Tourism Region accounted for the majority of Victoria's accommodation takings (77.2%).

The highest percentage growth in accommodation takings between June quarter 2008 and June quarter 2009 was recorded in the Tourism Region of Phillip Island (102.6%), followed by Spa Country (36.7%) and Central Highlands (24.7%). The largest decreases in accommodation takings were recorded in the Tourism Regions of Macedon (-39.7%), Melbourne (-9.9%) and Peninsula (-9.1%).

Estimates for some Tourism Regions were not available for separate publication in June quarter 2008 or June quarter 2009. Therefore, it is not possible to derive the percentage change of takings from accommodation between these two quarters. The affected Tourism Regions are Wimmera, Mallee and Upper Yarra, and hence these regions have not been included in the regional commentary above or the graph below. Total takings from accommodation in these regions increased by 2.4% between June quarter 2008 and June quarter 2009.

Change in takings from accommodation(a), By Tourism Region - June quarter 2008 to June quarter 2009



(a) Hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Tourist accommodation, By Tourism Region - June quarter 2009](#) (file size 24kB).

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AGRICULTURE

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Livestock slaughtering and meat production

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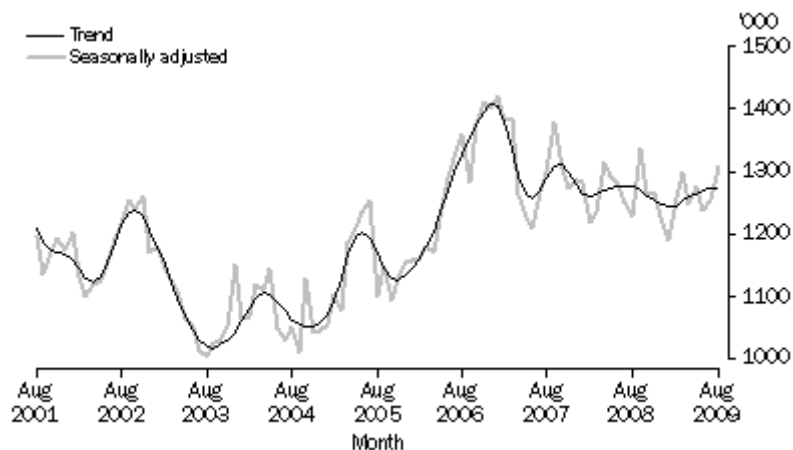
LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Between August 2008 and August 2009, the trend estimate for total meat production for Victoria decreased by 4.9% from 60,409.2 tonnes to 57,451.5 tonnes. The production of Veal, Beef, Mutton and Pig meat decreased by 16.5%, 11.6%, 10.4% and 6.5% respectively, while an increase was recorded for Lamb (15.4%) over the same period.



The trend estimate for the number of livestock slaughtered decreased by 3,100 (0.2%) between August 2008 and August 2009. Slaughtering of Sheep, Cattle, Calves and Pigs decreased by 16.9%, 12.2%, 12.0% and 9.4% respectively, while Lamb slaughtering increased by 11.3% over this period.

Total livestock slaughtering, Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Livestock slaughtering and meat production, Victoria: All series \(file size 27kB\)](#).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Other agricultural production, Victoria \(file size 24kB\)](#).

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TRADE

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CONFIDENTIALITY OF MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

The release of statistics for certain merchandise trade commodities is restricted in order to prevent the identification of the activities of an individual business, where this is requested by the business concerned. These restrictions do not affect the total value of exports and imports for Australia, but they can affect statistics at disaggregated levels, including by state.

Prior to September 2008, import commodities with confidentiality restrictions 'No commodity details' or 'No value details' contributed to the relevant state and country totals, so that these totals showed the correct level of trade. To ensure the confidentiality of data, this treatment changed in September 2008. Import commodities with these confidentiality restrictions are now excluded from all state-level data. Therefore, data on imports for Victoria may understate the actual amount of trade in Victoria, including the amount of trade with the state's major trading partners.

From December 2008, some additional commodities have had a restriction of 'No commodity details' applied, and care should be taken when interpreting the data on Machinery and transport equipment in the commodity table in this chapter.

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Balance of merchandise trade

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BALANCE OF MERCHANDISE TRADE

In August 2009, the balance of international merchandise trade (i.e. the value of exports less the value of imports) for Victoria was a deficit of \$2,648m. The value of the state's merchandise exports was \$1,464m, while merchandise imports totalled \$4,112m. Compared with August 2008, Victoria's trade deficit in August 2009 was \$898m (25.3%) lower, with a decline in the value of exports (down \$154m, 9.5%) being more than offset by a larger fall in the value of imports (down \$1,052m, or 20.4%). Victoria recorded an average monthly trade deficit of \$2,892m for the 12 months ending August 2009.

At the national level, the value of imports and exports (including re-exports) were lower by 15.9% and 26.2%, respectively, in August 2009 compared with August 2008.



In 2008-09, Victoria's trade deficit was \$36,076m, an increase of \$556m (1.6%) over the previous financial year. The state's exports decreased by \$157m (0.8%) while imports increased by \$400m (0.7%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Balance of international merchandise trade \(file size 32kB\)](#).

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Trade by Commodity

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TRADE BY COMMODITY

More than a quarter (28.9%) of Victoria's merchandise exports in 2008-09 were Food and live animals, followed by Machinery and transport equipment (19.7%). Compared with 2007-08, exports of Food and live animals rose by \$670m and Chemicals and related products rose by \$357m. The largest decrease in exports were Machinery and transport equipment (-\$791m).

Food and live animals accounted for almost a third (31.4%) of Victoria's exports in June quarter 2009, while Machinery and transport equipment contributed 15.6% of the total.

Imports of Machinery and transport equipment comprised 38.0% of total Victorian imports in 2008-09, more than two times the size of the next largest category (Miscellaneous manufactured articles, 17.6%). The largest increases from 2007-08 were in Miscellaneous manufactured articles (\$1,442m) and Food and live animals (\$421m). The largest decreases were in Machinery and transport equipment (-\$1,434m) and Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (-\$640m).

In June quarter 2009, Machinery and transport equipment made up 38.0% of the state's imports, with a further 19.1% being Miscellaneous manufactured articles.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 International merchandise trade, By Commodity - Victoria \(file size 28kB\)](#).

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Major trading partners

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MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS

Based on the volume of trade with the state, Victoria's biggest trading partner in 2008-09 was China, with combined exports and imports of \$13,566m. The next biggest trading partners were the United States of America, Japan, New Zealand and Germany. With the exception of New Zealand (a trade deficit of \$629m), Victoria's largest trade deficits in

2008-09 were recorded with its biggest trading partners - China (\$9,226m), the United States of America (\$5,222m), Germany (\$3,389m) and Japan (\$3,104m). Over the same period, trade surpluses were recorded with 4 of the state's 30 major trading partners. The largest of these was with Saudi Arabia (\$1,058m), followed by the United Arab Emirates (\$507m).

The top five destinations of Victoria's exports in June quarter 2009 were China, New Zealand, the United States of America, Japan and Republic of Korea. Combined, 41.9% of the state's exports in the quarter went to these countries. More than one-fifth (21.2%) of imports to Victoria came from China, with the United States of America (12.0%) and Japan (8.8%) being the next two largest sources.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 International merchandise trade, By Major trading partner - Victoria \(file size 27kB\)](#).

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Air quality

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AIR QUALITY

The Air Quality Index compiled by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority measures the concentration of various pollutants relative to the concentration levels at which they may cause harm. The lower the index is, the better the quality of our air. The index is available for four areas in the Port Phillip Region (East, West, City and Geelong) and the Latrobe Valley.

The Visibility Pollutant Index is an indicator of visibility reduction, and is measured by the concentration of airborne particles relative to Victorian standards. Incidents of poor visibility are generally higher during the cooler months of autumn and winter (from May to September), whereas ozone levels are generally higher during the warmer months of spring and summer (from November to February).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Air quality, By Region \(file size 71kB\)](#).

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Water resources

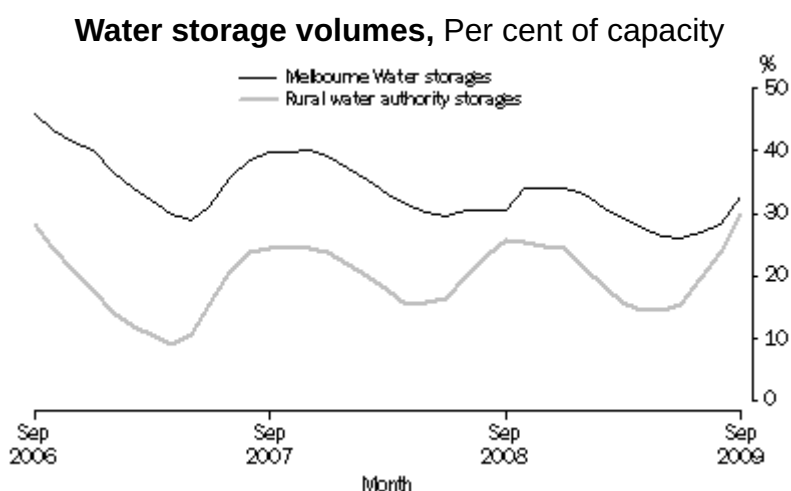
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WATER RESOURCES

In April 2009, Lake Mokoan was removed as a water storage due to decommissioning, reducing the total capacity of Victoria's water storages at full service level by 365 GL. The Tarago Reservoir was added to the Melbourne supply system in June 2009, adding 38 GL to full capacity. At the end of September 2009, the capacity of Victoria's water storages at full service level was 14,020 GL.

The state's water storages were at 29.2% of capacity at the end of September 2009. This was 5.6 percentage points higher than the level in August 2009, and 3.4 percentage points higher than in September 2008.

Melbourne's water storage level at the end of September 2009 was 32.6% of capacity. This was 4.2 percentage points higher than the level in August 2009 and 2.0 percentage points higher than in September 2008. Rural water storages held 29.9% of their capacity at the end of September 2009, 6.1 percentage points higher than in August 2009, and 4.3 percentage points higher than the level in September 2008.



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Water storage levels, By River Basin \(file size 24kB\)](#).

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This quarterly publication contains data from both ABS and non-ABS sources. The ABS publications referenced within the publication, as well as the websites of non-ABS organisations, can be found listed below. For further information, users are directed to these references.

AIR QUALITY

2 The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) reports air quality as an index for any given pollutant as its concentration expressed as a percentage of the relevant standard. It enables easy interpretation of whether the pollutant is at a level which may cause harm. An index value of 100 means the pollutant is currently at a concentration equal to the National Environment Protection Measure (Air NEPM) or State Environment Protection Policy (The Air Environment) (SEPP) standard levels (levels designed to protect human health and the environment). Indexes are calculated separately for each measured pollutant: Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Fine Particulates (PM10), Visibility (Airborne Particle Index). For each station, the daily pollutant indexes are the maximum index values for that day. Note that not all pollutants are measured at each station. The EPA also calculates an overall Air Quality Index, which amalgamates each pollutant index into an overall measure of air quality at each station.

3 The air quality data have been provided for the Ozone and Visibility (or Airborne Particle) Indexes as these are the dominant pollutants and are widely measured across the EPA network. It should also be noted that meteorological conditions are a major determinant on the incidence of elevated pollutant levels. Hence significant daily, seasonal and annual variations can be expected in air quality. For more information on air quality, see the EPA web site, <<http://www.epa.vic.gov.au>>.

4 The air quality index is converted into a qualitative scale with five commonly understood terms. Very good (0-33), Good (34-66) and Fair (67-99) represent measurements within the standards, while Poor (100-149) and Very poor (150+) represent measurements exceeding the standards.

5 For air quality reporting purposes the Port Phillip Region (PPR) has been divided into 4 regions: East, West, City and Geelong. Air monitoring stations assigned to each region are: East - Alphington, Brighton, Box Hill, Dandenong, Mooroolbark; City - RMIT, Richmond; West - Footscray, Melton, Point Cook, Paisley; Geelong - Point Henry, Geelong South. In addition, the Latrobe Valley has stations at Moe and Traralgon. The regional index is considered to be the maximum of the station indexes calculated within each particular region. The daily index reported for a region is the maximum region index recorded each day.

MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN AREA

6 Most of the small area data provided by non-ABS organisations are aggregates at Local Government Area (LGA) level. With one exception, LGAs do not cross Statistical Division (SD) boundaries, and therefore it is generally possible to form SD data from aggregate LGA data. However, while the majority of the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is in the Melbourne SD, the Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA is in the Gippsland SD. As a result, it is not possible to derive exact data for Melbourne and Gippsland SDs.

7 Where necessary, the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA as a whole is included with the LGAs in Melbourne SD to form a region referred to as the Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA). Consequently, in these instances Gippsland SD excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.

8 As an indication of the relative size of Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA, at 30 June 2008 it had a preliminary Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of 612 persons. At the same date, the total ERP of Yarra Ranges (S) LGA was 146,886, while Gippsland SD had a total ERP of 170,779.

GEOGRAPHY AND MAPS

9 Maps of SLAs and SDs within Victoria can be found in [Australian Standard Geographical Classification](#) (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0) on the Downloads page (1216.0 - 2009 ASGC - Victorian Maps). A listing of SLAs within each LGA (Local Government Areas and Statistical Local Areas - Alphabetic) can be accessed from the same page, along with listings of SLAs within each SD (Main Structure - Detailed) and Statistical Region (SR) (Statistical Region Structure - Detailed).

10 Unless otherwise indicated, boundaries of LGAs, SDs and SRs referred to in this publication are consistent with those in the 2009 Edition of the ASGC. The most recent change to an LGA boundary in Victoria was effective from 1 July 2008 and involved Melbourne (C) gaining 111.8 hectares (and 5,712 persons based on preliminary ERP at 30 June 2008) from Moonee Valley (C).

11 SRs used in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) are revised at the time of the labour force sample redesign following each Census of Population and Housing and remain stable until the next labour force sample redesign. Consequently, the LGA boundary change between Melbourne (C) and Moonee Valley (C) is not reflected in LFS data. For further information on LFS data at regional level, please see [Information Paper: Regional Labour Force Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6262.0). Maps of SRs used in the LFS can be found in [Australian Labour Market Statistics, Jul 2009](#) (cat. no. 6105.0) on the Downloads page (6105.0 - Labour Force Region Maps - Victoria - 2007).

12 Tourism Regions are defined by relevant state/territory tourism organisations and represent groups of SLAs. Each year, any changes to Tourism Regions (including SLA boundary changes incorporated in the current edition of the ASGC) are applied from the first reference period of the Survey of Tourist Accommodation in the following calendar year (i.e. the March quarter). For a map of Victorian Tourism Regions, and a listing of SLAs within each Tourism Region, please see [Tourism Region Maps and Concordance Files, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9503.0.55.001).

ABS PUBLICATIONS

13 The following ABS publications are referenced in this release of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**:

- [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0)
- [Labour Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6345.0)
- [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9314.0)
- [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0)
- [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
- [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0)
- [Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product](#) (cat. no. 5206.0)
- [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6401.0)
- [House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities](#) (cat. no. 6416.0)
- [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0)
- [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0)
- [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0)
- [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Victoria](#) (cat. no. 8635.2.55.001)
- [Livestock Products, Australia](#) (cat. no. 7215.0)
- [Livestock and Meat, Australia](#) (cat. no. 7218.0.55.001)
- [International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5368.0)

NON-ABS WEBSITES

14 The websites of the following organisations may provide further information on some of the data provided in this release of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**:

- [Victoria Police](#)
- [Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations \(DEEWR\)](#)
- [Dairy Australia](#)
- [Environment Protection Authority, Victoria](#)
- [Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria](#)

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Chain volume measures

Annually-reweighted chain Laspeyres volume price indexes referenced to the current price values in a chosen reference year (i.e. the year when the quarterly chain volume measures sum to the current price annual values). Chain Laspeyres volume measures are compiled by linking together (compounding) movements in volumes, calculated using the average prices of the previous financial year, and applying the compounded movements to the current price estimates of the reference year.

Generally, chain volume measures are not additive. In other words, component chain

volume measures do not sum to a total in the way original current price components do. In order to minimize the impact of this property, the ABS uses the latest base year as the reference year. By adopting this approach, additivity exists for the period following the reference year and non-additivity is relatively small for the years immediately preceding. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates, although some revision to recent growth rates can be expected because of the introduction of a more recent base year (and revisions to the current price estimates underlying the chain volume measures).

Deficit and surplus

A deficit occurs when the sum of all debit entries exceeds the sum of all credit entries, and a surplus occurs when the sum of all credit entries exceeds the sum of all debit entries. The term deficit (or surplus) can therefore be used in relation to various balances, e.g. balance of trade.

Duration of unemployment

The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers);
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers);
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement;
 - on strike or locked out;
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job;
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Particles as PM₁₀

Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less.

Photochemical oxidants and ozone

'Photochemical oxidants' is the technical term for the type of smog found in Australian cities during the warmer months of the year. This type of smog can be invisible or it can appear as

a whitish haze.

Photochemical oxidants are formed when sunlight falls on a mixture of chemicals in the air. Ozone is one of the main photochemical oxidants. Other chemicals such as formaldehyde are also found and, like ozone, have adverse health effects. Environment agencies measure the level of ozone because it indicates the total amount of photochemical oxidants in the air. Cities that have abundant sunshine over periods of time, together with moderate winds and high temperatures, are most likely to experience high levels of photochemical oxidants.

Ozone is a gas that is formed when nitrogen oxides react with a group of air pollutants known as 'reactive organic substances' in the presence of sunlight. The chemicals that react to form ozone come from sources such as: motor vehicle exhaust, oil refining, printing, petrochemicals, lawn mowing, aviation, bushfires and burning off. Motor vehicle exhaust fumes produce as much as 70% of the nitrogen oxides and 50% of the organic chemicals that form ozone. (Source: Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, <<http://www.environment.gov.au>>)

Re-exports

Re-exports are defined as goods, materials or articles originally imported into Australia which are exported in either the same condition in which they were imported, or after undergoing some minor operations (e.g. blending, packaging, bottling, cleaning and sorting) which leave them essentially unchanged. Included in international merchandise export statistics.

Seasonal adjustment

A means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals (e.g. Christmas and Easter).

State final demand

Conceptually identical to domestic final demand at the national level (the sum of private and government final consumption expenditure and private and public gross fixed capital formation).

National estimates are based on the concepts and conventions embodied in the System of National Accounts, 1993, but for regional (including state) estimates there is no separate international standard. Although national concepts are generally applicable to state accounts, there remain several conceptual and measurement issues that either do not apply or are insignificant nationally. Most of the problems arise in the measurement of gross state product for the transport and storage, communication services, and finance and insurance industries, where production often takes place across state borders. In these cases, a number of conceptual views can be applied to the allocation of value added by state. For more information, see chapter 28 of **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0).

Trend estimates

Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series.

Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:
 - were available for work in the reference week;
 - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

'000	thousand
'000 t	thousand tonnes
\$'000	thousand dollars
\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC06	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 2006 Edition
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
B	Borough
BoV	Balance of Victoria
cat. no.	Catalogue number
C	City
CPI	consumer price index
DEEWR	Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
excl.	excluding
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
ERP	estimated resident population
FT	full-time
GL	gigalitres
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LGA	local government area
m	million
MMA	Melbourne Metropolitan Area
MSR	major statistical region
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
no.	number
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
NSW	New South Wales

Pt	Part
qtr	quarter
Qld	Queensland
RC	Rural City
S	Shire
SD	statistical division
SEPP	State Environment Protection Policy
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SLA	statistical local area
SR	statistical region
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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